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## LADY CARNARVON

Fiona, 8th Countess of Carnarvon, is the wife of Geordie, 8th Earl of Carnarvon. They live at Highclere Castle, known to millions around the world as 'Downton Abbey'. She is a best-selling author and historian, entrepreneur, international speaker, and fundraiser in the UK and abroad. She is recognised for her empowering, entertaining, and informative talks.

Highclere Castle is many things. An iconic stately home and estate that must earn its keep. At its heart, a successful family business. It continues to thrive, adapt, and grow for generations to come. Generations of family, of visitors, of friends and staff—for all of whom Highclere is an important and integral part of life. Its roster includes hosting film crews, events, welcoming visitors throughout the year as well as the global brand endeavours of Highclere Castle gin and cigars. There is a seasonal farming cycle and conservation and sustainability is at the heart of everything Highclere.

Lady Carnarvon and her husband live 'quietly' with nine dogs, horses and ponies, a brood of chickens, several beehives, and some rare breed pigs. They are both actively involved in the day-to-day life and running of the castle and estate, working with a committed team.

The restoration and management of the historic buildings and gardens remain a key part of the work. Their latest exciting venture 'Friends of Highclere' is building a community of individuals who are passionate about all that Highclere is.

Lady Carnarvon's background—from St Andrews University to training with PwC as a chartered accountant—gave her a grounding which has proved invaluable in moving with the times, the world of business, and reinventing what a stately home is today.